

The Counseling Collaborative
Milja Brecher-DeMuro, MSW, LCSW
1489 State Highway 102
Bar Harbor, ME 04609
(207)288-3388

Technology Consent

Client Name: _____ DOB: _____

Conditions for the use of email and text technology:

Milja Brecher-DeMuro, MSW, LCSW cannot guarantee but will use reasonable means to maintain security and confidentiality of email and text information sent and received. Milja Brecher-DeMuro, MSW, LCSW is not liable for improper disclosure of confidential information that is not caused by Milja Brecher-DeMuro, MSW, LCSW's intentional misconduct. Clients/Parent's/Legal Guardians must acknowledge and consent to the following conditions:

- Email and texting is **NOT** appropriate for urgent or emergency situations. Provider cannot guarantee that any particular email and/or text will be read and responded to within any particular period of time.
- Milja Brecher-DeMuro, MSW, LCSW will check email and texts and respond in a timely manner. Emails and/or texts will **NOT** be checked or responded to after business hours (Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm) or on weekends (Friday-Sunday).
- Email and texts should be concise. The client/parent/legal guardian should call and/or schedule an appointment to discuss complex and/or sensitive situations.
- Email and/or text communications will usually be printed and filed into the client's medical record or a note will be made in that record.
- Provider will not forward client's/parent's/legal guardian's identifiable emails and/or texts without the client's/parent's/legal guardian's written consent, except as authorized by law.
- Clients/parents/legal guardians should not use email or texts for communication of sensitive medical information unless previously agreed on in session.
- Provider is not liable for breaches of confidentiality caused by the client or any third party.
- It is the client's/parent's/legal guardian's responsibility to follow up and/or schedule an appointment if warranted.
- Milja Brecher-DeMuro, MSW, LCSW is prohibited from communicating and or being connected on social media with clients, parents and/or legal guardians. Messages on these platforms will be addressed by phone or in person as appropriate.

Risk of using email/texting:

The transmission of client information by email and/or texting has a number of risks that clients should consider prior to the use of email and/or texting. These include, but are not limited to, the following risks:

- Email and texts can be circulated, forwarded, stored electronically and on paper, and broadcast to unintended recipients.
- Email and text senders can easily misaddress an email or text and send the information to an undesired recipient.
- Backup copies of emails and texts may exist even after the sender and/or the recipient has deleted his or her copy.
- Employers and on-line services have a right to inspect emails sent through their company systems.
- Emails and texts can be intercepted, altered, forwarded or used without authorization or detection.
- Email and texts can be used as evidence in court.
- Emails and texts may not be secure and therefore it is possible that the confidentiality of such communications may be breached by a third party.

Client Acknowledgement and Agreement:

Client and/or guardian's signature on the Consent to Treatment form acknowledges an understanding of and agreement to this information. It is each client and/or guardian's choice to determine whether or not they will communicate with Milja Brecher-DeMuro, MSW, LCSW using the above listed forms of technology.